

lowed the French, impressive as ever, and unmoved by the sight of the empty seats of the Chinese delegates, mute evidence of that nation's wounds.

With the signing by the great Powers completed, a steady procession of the minor delegates began, but it soon became monotonous, consuming just an hour. As a spectacle the Grand Monarch would have watched it with a contemptuous smile.

Chinese Sought Reservation.

The action of China in refusing to sign the treaty did not surprise the Council of Four. China had served notice that unless the Shantung question was brought up again for reconsideration and clauses of the settlement were modified for eventual incorporation in the treaty, she would withhold her signature. Her delegates made a similar reservation at the secret session held in the Quai d'Orsay the day before the treaty was presented to the Germans.

At that time the Chinese, in protesting the Shantung decision, made it clear that the delegation was under moral obligations to the 400,000,000 people of the country not to sign a treaty embodying such an injustice. They tried to have the reservation embodied then in the treaty, but the Council ruled against them. Since then more than a thousand called protests from China and other parts of the world have served to strengthen the determination of the delegates not to accept the decision of the conference.

GERMANS INSISTENT ON MILITARY HONORS

They Nearly Broke Up Peace at Last Moment.

By the Associated Press.

VERSAILLES, June 28.—The world war, which lasted just thirty-seven days less than five years, was formally ended here to-day when representatives of Germany and the allied and associated Powers signed the peace terms. The signatures were affixed in the name Hall of Mirrors where the Germans so ignominiously humbled France at the end of the Franco-Prussian war forty-eight years ago. The day of peace, though a curious coincidence, was the fifth anniversary of the murder at Sarajevo of Archduke Francis Ferdinand of Austria, whose killing was the immediate cause of the Austrian ultimatum to Serbia which precipitated the war.

Protest by the Germans.

The day brought forth three unexpected incidents. The first was the failure of the Chinese representatives to affix their signatures to the document. Secondly, Gen. Jan Christian Smuts, although he put his name to the treaty, protested that the paper was an unsatisfactory one, and, thirdly, although it was unknown to the general public, the German delegates protested against the program arranged for the ceremony.

As soon as they had seen Herr von Bismarck's name directly to Col. Henry, the French liaison officer.

"We cannot admit that the German delegates should enter the hall by different doors than the Entente delegates or that military honors should be withheld," said he. "Had we known earlier there would be such arrangements our delegates would not have come."

A hurried conference was held with the French Foreign Ministry, at which it was decided as a compromise to render military honors as the Germans left the place. With this exception, however, the program was not changed.

An hour before the time for the ceremony arrived those in the hall were urged to take the seats which had been provided for them. But they were so eager to catch every detail of the scene to be enacted that they refused and crowded forward toward the center of the hall, which was so long as to prevent many of them from obtaining a good view even with opera glasses.

None of the seats was elevated, and there was consequently a general scramble for standing room.

It was 1:45 o'clock when Secretary Lansing, the first of the American delegation, arrived at the palace. He was followed by Premier Clemenceau and

Gen. Bliss. Few of the spectators recognized any of the delegates as they entered, and there were no demonstrations. The delegates from the minor powers made their way with difficulty through the crowd to their places at the table.

Goose Quills Are Provided.

At precisely 2:10 o'clock the peace treaty was deposited on the table in the Hall of Mirrors by William Martin of the French Foreign Office. Its case was of stamped leather and it looked imposing, as befitting perhaps the most momentous document of history. A box of old-fashioned goose quills, sharpened by the expert pen pointer of the French Foreign Office, was placed on each of the three tables for the use of those plenipotentiaries who wished to observe the traditional formalities.

"During the forenoon two large chairs of honor had been placed in the hall for the presidents of the French Senate and Chamber of Deputies. Additional rows of benches covered with tapestry were arranged for the marshals and generals of the allied armies and for the guests of honor.

After Premier Lloyd George entered many of the delegates pressed forward to seek the autographs of the members of the Council of Four and they bustled themselves in signing copies of the official programme until the arrival of the Germans. A decorous cheer went up shortly before 3 o'clock when fifteen plenipotentiaries from the British and French armies appeared in the hall.

On the stroke of 3 a hush fell over the hall. The silence was almost intolerable. He made a brief speech, in which he put the direct question to the Germans as to whether they were willing to sign and loyally execute all the terms of the treaty. There was a tense pause and then, after a moment's delay, William Martin, master of ceremonies, escorted the German plenipotentiaries to the left of the U-shaped table. They quickly made their way to their seats at the left of the U-shaped table. The composure was admirable and they manifested none of the uneasiness exhibited by Count von Brockdorff-Rantzau, head of the German delegation, when he was handed the peace treaty. None of the other delegates rose to their feet when the Germans entered.

Clemenceau's Speech Is Brief.

The session was formally called to order by Premier Clemenceau at 3:10 o'clock. He made a brief speech, in which he put the direct question to the Germans as to whether they were willing to sign and loyally execute all the terms of the treaty. There was a tense pause and then, after a moment's delay, William Martin, master of ceremonies, escorted the German plenipotentiaries to the left of the U-shaped table. They quickly made their way to their seats at the left of the U-shaped table. The composure was admirable and they manifested none of the uneasiness exhibited by Count von Brockdorff-Rantzau, head of the German delegation, when he was handed the peace treaty. None of the other delegates rose to their feet when the Germans entered.

Protocol Signed by All.

The protocol was signed by all those who signed the treaty. The Rhine arrangement was signed by the Germans, Americans, Belgians, British and French plenipotentiaries.

Gen. Jan Christian Smuts, one of the delegates representing the Union of South Africa, signed the treaty under protest. He objected to certain territorial settlements, making a lengthy statement.

Gen. Smuts said that the indemnities stipulated could not be accepted without grave injuries to the industrial revival of Europe. He contended it would be to the interests of the allied Powers to render the stipulations more tolerable and moderate.

In his protest Gen. Smuts asserted that there were territorial settlements which he believed would need a revision, and that there were guarantees provided which he hoped soon would be found out of harmony with the new peaceful temper and unarmist state of the Central Powers. Punishments also were forewarned, he said, over the passage of oblivion.

One of the picturesque features of the preliminaries to the ceremony was the entry into the hall at 1 o'clock of a squad of dismounted Hussars of the Republican Guards, giants in stature, who stationed themselves at either end of the space occupied by the plenipotentiaries, forming a wall between the delegates and the spectators. While they contributed much to the picturesque of the setting their presence rendered it almost impossible for those behind them to see much of the proceedings.

By the time the session was to open, however, the guards were given an order about face, which they did, and filed out of the hall, much to the relief of those whose view had been cut off.

Guns Proclaim Peace.

At 3:44 o'clock cannon began to boom, announcing the completion of the ceremony of signing. The signatures had not, however, as a matter of fact then been completed, for at that time the smaller nations were still signing in alphabetical order. The proceedings were formally closed at 3:45 o'clock.

The German delegates left the hall first, the allied representatives remaining in their seats. Those who had assembled in the hall then went to the terrace to see the fountains playing.

The most dramatic moment came unexpectedly and spontaneously at the conclusion of this greatest ceremony in history, when Premier Clemenceau, President Wilson and Premier Lloyd George descended from the Hall of Mirrors to the terrace at the rear of the palace, where thousands of spectators were massed.

With the appearance of the three who have dominated the councils of the Allies, there began a most remarkable and unexpected demonstration. With cries of "Vive Clemenceau!" "Vive Wilson!" "Vive Lloyd George!" dense crowds swept forward from all parts of

Peace Treaty Charter for New Order of Affairs in the World, Says Wilson

WASHINGTON, June 28.—Secretary Tumulty to-day made public the following message from the President:

MY FELLOW COUNTRYMEN—The treaty of peace has been signed. If it is ratified and acted upon in full and sincere execution of its terms it will furnish the charter for a new order of affairs in the world.

It is a severe treaty in the duties and penalties it imposes upon Germany, but it is severe only because great wrongs done by Germany are to be righted and repaired; it imposes nothing that Germany cannot do; and she can regain her rightful standing in the world by the prompt and honorable fulfillment of its terms.

And it is much more than a treaty of peace with Germany. It liberates great peoples who have never before been able to find the way to liberty. It ends once for all an old and intolerable order under which small groups of selfish men could use the peoples of great empires to serve their own ambition for power and dominion.

It associates the free governments of the world in a permanent league in which they are pledged to use their united power to maintain peace by maintaining right and justice.

It makes international law a reality supported by imperative sanctions.

It does away with the right of conquest and rejects the policy of annexation and substitutes a new order under which backward nations' populations which have not yet come to political consciousness and peoples who are ready for independence but not yet quite prepared to dispense with protection and guidance shall no more be subjected to the domination and exploitation of a stronger nation, but shall be put under the friendly direction and afforded the helpful assistance of Governments which undertake to be responsible to the opinion of mankind in the execution of their task by accepting the direction of the League of Nations.

It recognizes the inalienable rights of nationality; the rights of minorities and the sanctity of religious belief and practice.

It lays the basis for conventions which shall free the commercial intercourse of the world from unjust and vexatious restrictions and for every sort of international cooperation that will serve to cleanse the life of the world and facilitate its common action in beneficent service of every kind.

It furnishes guarantees such as were never given or even contemplated before for the fair treatment of all who labor at the daily tasks of the world.

It is for this reason that I have spoken of it as a great charter for a new order of affairs. There is ground here for deep satisfaction, universal reassurance and confident hope.

WOODROW WILSON.

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It had been planned that all the allied delegates would walk across the terrace after signing, to see the great fountain play, but some of the other plenipotentiaries got further than the door.

Caught in the Crowd.

President Wilson, Mr. Clemenceau and Mr. Lloyd George were caught in the living stream which flowed across the great space and became part of the crowd themselves. Soldiers and bodyguards struggled vainly to clear the way. The people jostled and struggled for a chance to touch the hands of the leaders of the Allies, all the while cheering madly.

Probably the least concerned for their personal safety were the three themselves. They went forward smilingly as the crowd welled, bowing in response to the ovation and here and there reaching out to shake an insistent hand as they passed.

Meanwhile a battery of big guns near by was thundering out the announcement that peace had been consummated, and a flight of French airplanes circled and swept the sunlit dancing from their silver wings. Every available point of vantage in the palace and about the grounds was filled with thousands of people who, less hardy than their comrades, had not been able to join the procession. No more picturesque setting could have been selected for this drama.

The return of President Wilson, Mr. Clemenceau and Mr. Lloyd George toward the palace was a repetition of their outward journey of triumph. As they reached the chateau, however, they turned to the left instead of entering. The crowd was in doubt as to what was intended, but followed loyally, cheering tumultuously. Nearly a closed car was waiting and the three entered this. Whether this was by design or because it was the easiest way of escape was not apparent. Thus they drove from the grounds together amid a profusion of flowers which had been thrust through the open window.

The place of the French cavalry which had occupied the Avenue de Versailles had been taken by tens of thousands of spectators, who watched and cheered. In fact, much of the route to Paris drew great numbers of people who had not been fortunate enough to get to Versailles. The American army was not wholly missing from the scene. Forty-two American Expeditionary Force military police were stationed in the grounds.

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Beyond the demonstration for President Wilson, Mr. Clemenceau and Mr. Lloyd George, the main interest of the people about the palace was centered in the arrival and departure of the Germans. Few people witnessed the arrival of the Germans, but despite the precautions of the soldiers great crowds gathered about the rear of the palace when the former enemy left immediately after signing the treaty. There was no audible demonstration against the Germans, but there was a distinct current of hostility evident among the crowd, which jammed close to the cars. The Germans were white faced and their fragile seals it bore, the sign to present it for signing to Premier Clemenceau, President Wilson and Premier Lloyd George was not carried out and the three conference leaders stepped to the table to affix their signatures.

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In the meantime, thousands of Parisians were packing the regular and special trains upon the lines leading to Versailles and conding with the residents of the town itself for places in the park where the fabled fountains of Versailles would mark the end of the ceremony.

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When the German delegates entered, Premier Clemenceau, president of the Peace Congress, rose and delivered his brief address, pointing out that the treaty had been drafted with the collaboration of all the Powers, and that the plenipotentiaries of the conference had formally certified that the text to be signed was identical with that in the copies handed them on June 17, and that their signatures were an irrevocable engagement that all the conditions laid down in the treaty would be loyally executed. His speech was translated into English and German.

Dr. Mueller and Dr. Bell, the German Government plenipotentiaries, arrived early in the day by automobiles from St. Cyr, instead of taking the belt line railroad as did the German delegates who came here to receive the terms of peace on May 7. The credentials of the new German delegates were approved by the Peace Conference authorities in the forenoon and everything was virtually in readiness at an early hour for the ceremony. The morning had been a cloudy one, but shortly before midday the clouds began to break.

Last minute changes were made in the programme to expedite the signing of the treaty. Two additional tables were placed beside the one within the historic Hall of Mirrors on which the peace treaty was laid. One of the new tables held the Rhine Convention and the other the protocol containing changes in and interpretations of the treaty. All these documents had to be signed by each plenipotentiary and the arrangement of the tables thus enabled three persons to be engaged simultaneously in affixing their signatures.

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